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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/848,966	05/04/2001	Richard L. Cunningham	IMD008	6935

7590 02/25/2004  
Immersion Corporation  
801 Fox Lane  
San Jose, CA 95131

EXAMINER

PATEL, NITIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/848,966

**Applicant(s)**

CUNNINGHAM ET AL.

**Examiner**

Nitin Patel

**Art Unit**

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/12/2003 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-54 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beeks (U.S. Patent No. 6,373,463) in view of Sinclair et al., (US 5,766,016) in further view of Gallery et al., (U.S. Patent No. 5,982,353).

As per claims 1,16,24,35 Beeks shows a method updating data value associated with a cursor displayed in a graphical environment of a host computer based on manipulation of at least a portion of an object coupled to the host computer (In col.5 lines 7-37) and outputting haptic feedback associated with a simulated within a

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graphical environment (in Col.4 lines 20-34 and In lines 35-67). Beeks does not show a palpation region to do a haptic feedback. Sinclair shows a surgical simulator with tactile feedback (In Abstract and In col.4 lines 58-67 to Col.5 lines 1-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention was made to allow the teaching of Sinclair's into the system of Beek's because it would have allow a use to controlling the position of the cursor in relation to the graphical representation position of the mouse and controlling a graphical representation of a human body part in relation to an amount of manipulation of the mouse.

Neither Beeks nor Sinclair shows the object being representative of a body part and configured to be contacted by a hand of a user. Gallery shows a body part and configured to contacted by a user hand (In Fig.2 element 26 and In Col.3 lines 50-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention was made to aloe the teaching of Gallery's into combined system of Beek's because it would have touched or located an object (such as anatomy) on a display with a hand gesture rather than a cursor

As per claims 2-7,17-23,25 Beeks does not show the application program which host computer includes having a palpation training program and first and second haptic sensation when cursor interact with a second region of a user hand that stimulate a use pulse. Sinclair shows (In Fig.3 element 22 and In col.6 lines5-38). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in that art at the time of the invention was made to allow the teaching of Sinclair's into the system of Beeks's because it would have allow the user to a realistically interact with the graphical environment.

As per claims 8-11,26,43 Beeks shows haptic feedback with a vibration, force (In Col.4 lines 20-65).

As per claims 11,27,42,44 Beeks shows the object comprises a mouse (In col.3 lines 47-49).

As per claims 12-15,28-34,45-54 Beeks shows actuator coupled to a mouse to simulate feedback that capable of causing the grounded linkage to apply feedback to the user (In Col.4 lines 35-67 to Col.5 lines 1-67).

As per claims 36-41, Beeks does not specifically show computer readable medium is a portable compact disk or a DVD, which could be read over a network. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention was made that most program are stored on a magnetic disk that could be a Hard drive or a disk or a DVD which be connected to a network to share information or get information from a network server.

### ***Conclusion***

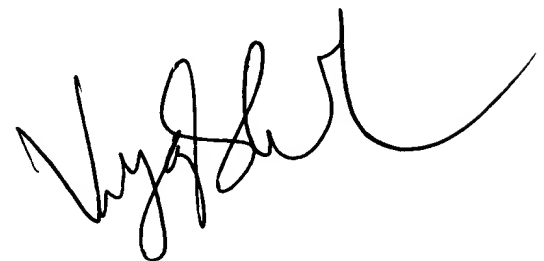
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin Patel whose telephone number is 703-308-7024. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin H Shalwala can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-308-9052 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9618.

NP  
February 20, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vijay Shankar', written in a cursive style.

**VIJAY SHANKAR  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**